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Oceans and the law of the sea

Report on the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socio-economic Aspects

Letter dated 13 July 2011 from the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole addressed to the President of the General Assembly

We have the honour to transmit to you the attached report on the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, which sets out in section II the agreed recommendations to the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly. Pursuant to paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 65/37 B, the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole met at United Nations Headquarters on 27 and 28 June 2011.

We kindly request that the present letter and the report be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under the agenda item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea".

(*Signed*) Donatus Keith **St. Aimee**

(*Signed*) Renée **Sauvé**

Co-Chairs

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Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socio-economic Aspects

I. Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole

1. The second meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socio-economic Aspects, was convened pursuant to paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 65/37 B of 4 April 2011. The meeting was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 27 and 28 June 2011.

2. The meeting was presided over by Donatus Keith St. Aimee (Saint Lucia) and Renée Sauvé (Canada), the Co-Chairs of the first meeting of the Working Group, who had been reappointed by the President of the General Assembly. The Friends of the Co-Chairs nominated by the regional groups at the first meeting continued to serve in that capacity: Jacqueline Kemunto Moseti (Kenya) for the African States; Abdul Hameed (Pakistan) for the Asian States; Walter Schuldt (Ecuador) for the Latin American and Caribbean States; and Kent Blom (Sweden) for the Western European and Other States.

3. Representatives of 55 Member States, 15 intergovernmental organizations and other bodies and 4 non-governmental organizations attended the meeting. A complete list of participants, dated 28 June 2011, is available on the website of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat (see www.un.org/Depts/los/global_reporting/List_of_Participants_June_2011.pdf).

4. The following members of the Group of Experts established pursuant to paragraph 209 of resolution 65/37 A also attended the meeting:[1] Patricio Bernal (Chile); Peter Harris (Australia); Lorna Inniss (Barbados); George Martin (Estonia); Enrique Marschoff (Argentina); Sean O. Green (Jamaica); Jake Rice (Canada); Andrew Rosenberg (United States of America); Alan Simcock (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); and Juying Wang (China).

5. The following supporting documentation was available to the meeting: (a) provisional agenda, annotated provisional agenda and format, including proposed organization of work; (b) draft guidelines for workshops, draft criteria for the appointment of experts and possible outline for the first global integrated assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects, prepared by the Group of Experts, together with a covering document; (c) draft terms of reference and working methods for the Group of Experts and provisions for communication with States; (d) report on the preliminary inventory of capacity-building for assessments and types of experts for workshops, prepared by the secretariat of the Regular Process and the Group of Experts; and (e) report on communication requirements and data and information management for the Regular Process, prepared by the secretariat of the Regular Process and the Group of

[1] A delegation brought to the attention of the meeting that one member of the Group of Experts could not attend the meeting because he had been unable to obtain an entry visa in time.

Experts. At the request of delegates, the Group of Experts provided additional information material entitled, "Suggestions by the Group of Experts of possible functions for the bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole".

6. On 27 June 2011, the Working Group adopted the agenda and agreed on the organization of work as proposed by the Co-Chairs. In its substantive discussions, and following informal consultations, the Working Group considered and adopted, on 28 June 2011, the documents entitled "Criteria for the appointment of experts" and "Guidelines for workshops to assist the Regular Process". On the same date, the Working Group took note of the documents entitled "Possible outline for the first global integrated assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects" and "Draft terms of reference and working methods for the Group of Experts" and agreed on the need for these documents to be considered further at its next meeting.

7. The Working Group requested the Group of Experts to revise the document entitled "Possible outline for the first global integrated assessment of the state of the marine environment", taking into account the comments made by delegations. To that end, the Co-Chairs were requested to send invitations to States and groups, following the invitation made pursuant to paragraph 5 of resolution 65/37 B, to provide further comments on the document by 23 July 2011 at the latest. The Working Group agreed on the usefulness of having those comments posted on the website of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, subject to the approval of the State or group concerned.

8. On 28 June 2011, following a statement by the Office of Information and Communications Technology of the Secretariat, the Working Group took note of the report on communication requirements and data and information management for the Regular Process. The Working Group also took note of the report on the preliminary inventory of capacity-building for assessments and types of experts for workshops and agreed on the need to invite States, specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, as well as funding institutions, to contribute information on existing opportunities and arrangements for capacity-building for assessments. Delegations also suggested that the preliminary inventory of capacity-building for assessments be circulated at workshops for the information of participants.

9. The Working Group considered the establishment of a bureau to implement its decisions and guidance during intersessional periods. The meeting decided to establish the bureau and agreed on its composition.

10. With regard to workshops, the Working Group agreed, on 28 June 2011, to recommend that they be organized at the earliest possible opportunity in order to inform the first cycle of the Regular Process. The Working Group accepted with deep appreciation the declaration of the member States of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific and of the Action Plan for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Area of the South-East Pacific and the generous offer of the Government of Chile to act as host for a workshop for the South-East Pacific in support of the first phase of the first cycle of the Regular Process. The Director of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea noted possible difficulties of the Division in participating in all workshops owing to the exigencies of work at Headquarters.

11. The Working Group considered the status of the trust fund established for the purpose of supporting the operations of the first five-year cycle of the Regular Process. It agreed to recommend that the General Assembly encourage financial contributions to the trust fund and other contributions to the Regular Process. In that regard, some delegations noted the importance of exploring ways for the Global Environment Facility to support the Regular Process. Several delegations emphasized the need to consider all sources of support for the Regular Process, including financial contributions and contributions in kind. The view was expressed that financial contributions to the Regular Process should be made through the trust fund established for that purpose.

12. The Director of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea reported on the status of the trust fund and thanked the Governments of Iceland, Jamaica, the Republic of Korea and New Zealand for their generous contributions in 2011, which had made it possible for experts to attend the meeting. Delegates were reminded that, without additional funding, it would not be possible to provide financial assistance to experts to attend future meetings of the Regular Process.

13. Based on the discussions, the Working Group adopted recommendations which are presented in section II of present report. The Working Group recommended that its next meeting be convened in the first half of 2012.

14. On 13 July 2011, the Co-Chairs transmitted the present report, with the recommendations, to the President of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly.

II. Recommendations of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole to the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly

15. The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole submits the following recommendations to the General Assembly.

(1) The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole recommends that the General Assembly adopt:

(a) The criteria for the appointment of Experts, attached as annex I to the present report;

(b) The guidelines for workshops to assist the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socio-economic Aspects, attached as annex II.

(2) The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole recommends that the General Assembly take note of:

(a) The draft terms of reference and working methods for the Group of Experts of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socio-economic Aspects, attached as annex III;

(b) The report on communication requirements and data and information management for the Regular Process, attached as annex IV;

(c) The report on the preliminary inventory of capacity-building for assessments and types of experts for workshops, attached as annex V.

(3) The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole takes note of the possible outline for the first global integrated assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects, attached as annex VI, and agrees on the need for it to be considered further with a view to its possible adoption at the next meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole.

(4) The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole recommends that the Secretary-General bring the preliminary inventory of capacity-building for assessments to the attention of Member States and heads of the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations engaged in activities relating to capacity-building for assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects, as well as funding institutions, and invite them to contribute information to the preliminary inventory on existing opportunities and arrangements for capacity-building for assessments.

(5) The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole recommends that, pursuant to paragraph 216 of resolution 65/37 A, the General Assembly urge Member States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make financial contributions to the trust funds established pursuant to paragraph 183 of resolution 64/71 and to make other contributions to the Regular Process.

(6) Pursuant to paragraph 208 of resolution 65/37 A, the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole agrees to establish a bureau to put in practice the decisions and guidance of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole during the intersessional period, for example by approving the assignment of members of the pool of experts to work on drafting or to review drafts, and approving arrangements proposed by the Group of Experts for peer review.

(7) The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole recommends to the General Assembly (a) that the bureau be composed of 15 Member States (3 Member States from each regional group) and (b) that at least one Co-Chair and a quorum of five Member States, one per regional group, be considered as the minimum requirement for the bureau to perform its functions.

(8) The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole recommends that the President of the General Assembly reappoint the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole so that they may attend meetings of the bureau during the intersessional period.

(9) The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole recommends that workshops be organized at the earliest possible opportunity in order to inform the first cycle of the Regular Process.

(10) The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole recommends that its next meeting be convened in the first half of 2012.

Annex I

Criteria for the appointment of experts

1. A pool of experts will be appointed by States, through the regional groups, to support the work of the Group of Experts in the preparation of the first global integrated marine assessment.

2. Where the Group of Experts does not designate one of its own members to draft a working paper or draft chapter for the assessment, it will invite selected members of the pool of experts to contribute to drafting working papers and draft chapters. Other members of the pool of experts with relevant expertise will be invited to comment on the drafts and may be invited to participate in the drafting.

3. When the draft of the first global integrated marine assessment is submitted for review, a panel of peer reviewers will be appointed by States, through the regional groups, to review and comment on the draft. The members of the panel of peer reviewers should not previously have been involved in the preparation of working papers or draft chapters. The panel of peer reviewers will work in parallel with the review of the draft by States and intergovernmental organizations.

4. The following criteria should apply to all individuals nominated by States to the Group of Experts, the pool of experts or the panel of peer reviewers:

(a) Internationally recognized expertise, to be demonstrated by one or more of the following:

(i) A record of scientific publications on the relevant issues, preferably in peer-reviewed publications;

(ii) Experience at a high level in global, regional or national assessments relating to the marine environment and other relevant areas, including socio-economic aspects;

(iii) Experience at a high level in the design and management of other major global, regional or national initiatives in marine science, assessment, environmental protection, maritime transport, coastal management, fisheries management, or other similar functions related to the marine environment and other relevant areas, including socio-economic aspects;

(iv) For experts from regions where there is as yet a relative paucity of scientific observation and monitoring data, a recognized status in traditional knowledge of, or in observing, the marine environment of their area;

(b) Demonstrated effective participation in international processes relevant to the marine environment or integrated assessment and other relevant areas, including socio-economic aspects; and

(c) The ability to serve in an independent, individual capacity.

5. In the allocation of members of the pool of experts to the various tasks, the following will be considered:

(a) Those invited to contribute to drafting a working paper or draft chapter should have a demonstrated ability to write clearly and concisely on their subject;

(b) Material from those invited to contribute to drafting a working paper or draft chapter should be submitted in one of the official languages of the United Nations.

In addition, members of the panel of peer reviewers will be responsible for working according to the needs of the Group of Experts.

6. The appointments to the pool of experts and the panel of peer reviewers and the allocation of tasks to members of the pool of experts should reflect the principle of adherence to equitable geographical representation in all activities of the Regular Process, and have due regard to a desirable balance between the genders.

7. The selection of members of the pool of experts to draft, or to comment on, an issue should ensure that all disciplines relevant to an integrated assessment of that issue are included.

8. Experts should be given sufficient time to make the contributions to the Regular Process that their roles will require.

Annex II

Guidelines for workshops to assist the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socio-economic Aspects

Purpose and objectives

1. As recognized by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole in February 2011 (see A/65/759, annex), workshops are a key mechanism by which the first global integrated marine assessment will be accomplished and States can enhance their assessment capacity. Workshops will facilitate dialogue between the Group of Experts of the Regular Process and representatives and experts from States and competent intergovernmental organizations. The present guidelines are intended to make clear how a set of workshops should be organized in support of the first phase of the first cycle of the Regular Process. They will help ensure the credibility and legitimacy of the output of each workshop, and thus of the Regular Process in general.

2. The objectives of each of the set of workshops should be to:

(a) Review and evaluate all assessments considered by the participants to be relevant to the sea area under consideration and, on the basis of those evaluations, compile an inventory of assessments likely to be useful for the Regular Process. The assessments to be considered should be both those related to environmental issues and those related to socio-economic issues. If necessary, arrangements should be initiated for access to those assessments by the Group of Experts and the secretariat of the Regular Process;

(b) Start building a network composed of experts and organizations taking part in each workshop, the Group of Experts and the secretariat of the Regular Process;

(c) Identify the capacity-building needs of States taking part in the workshop to allow them to contribute more fully to, and benefit more fully from, the Regular Process, including identification of priorities, and identify steps that those States could usefully take to build the capacities of competent intergovernmental organizations (if any) through which the States collaborate;

(d) Start building capacity for integrated assessment, which could include discussing and developing:

(i) Common information content for assessments at various scales and common approaches to assessment methodologies;

(ii) Approaches for scaling up assessments, that is, establishing the extent to which assessments at one level (national, subregional, regional or global) can be used at other levels;

(iii) Reporting forms to assist the integration process, with the aim of securing coherence, consistency and comparability as far as possible;

(e) Consider the linkages between driving factors and the state of the marine environment as reflected in assessment.

3. This list of objectives, the preparatory work set out in appendix I below and the outline agenda in appendix II will constitute the terms of reference of the workshops.

Number and locations

4. States are invited to offer to host workshops for the following:

(a) The North Pacific;

(b) The South Pacific (south-east Pacific and south-west Pacific);

(c) The eastern and south-eastern Asian Seas;

(d) The northern Indian Ocean, the Arabian Sea, the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden and the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment/Regional Commission for Fisheries area;

(e) The southern and western Indian Ocean;

(f) The North Atlantic, the Baltic Sea, the Mediterranean Sea and the Black Sea;

(g) The South Atlantic (between the African and American coasts) and the wider Caribbean.

5. Separate workshops may not be needed for the Arctic and Antarctic. However, the relevant international bodies and forums with regard to those areas (in particular, the Antarctic Treaty System and the Arctic Council) could be invited to consider, and to contribute to, the issues proposed for the workshops. If requested, members of the Group of Experts could be available for consultation.

6. Offers to host workshops should be made to the secretariat of the Regular Process, which, with the help of the Group of Experts, will seek to negotiate arrangements which will avoid overlap of coverage or clash of dates. The secretariat of the Regular Process will notify all States of workshops to be held, as soon as arrangements have been agreed.

Timing

7. The Group of Experts will need to reach conclusions in April 2012 on some of the issues suggested for consideration by the workshops. It will therefore be best if workshops are held in time for their output to reach the Group of Experts by the end of March 2012.

Hosts

8. Workshops are to be hosted by Member States and organized under the auspices of the United Nations,[a] in coordination with the secretariat of the Regular Process and with the assistance of members of the Group of Experts. Member States

[a] The organization of workshops may require the conclusion of an agreement between the host country and the United Nations.

may request the cooperation of competent intergovernmental organizations and/or relevant national scientific institutions for the organization of workshops.

Participation

9. States Members of the United Nations, observers and competent intergovernmental organizations shall be entitled to participate in any workshop that they consider relevant to them, up to the number of available places. Competent intergovernmental organizations in the region are encouraged to participate. For practical reasons, the logistics and the size and number of delegations will need to be managed by the host in consultation with the secretariat of the Regular Process.

10. Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, relevant scientific institutions and organizations representing major groups as defined in Agenda 21 may request invitations to participate. Hosts may reserve a number of places in the workshop to be filled by such invitations.

11. Each workshop should include at least one member of the Group of Experts and one member of the secretariat of the Regular Process, whose participation will be coordinated with the secretariat of the Regular Process, taking into account the exigencies of work at Headquarters. If possible, all members of the Group of Experts from States in the area covered by the workshop should participate. Members of the Group of Experts from outside that area could be invited by the secretariat of the Regular Process to participate, and it would be desirable if at least one such member participates. Where necessary, such participation of the members of the Group of Experts may be supported by the trust fund for the Regular Process as referenced in paragraph 183 of General Assembly resolution 64/71.

Chair and secretariat

12. Hosts should designate a chair (or co-chairs) of the workshop, who will be expected to take responsibility for summarizing the outcomes of the workshop with the aid of the workshop support staff and members of the Group of Experts. Hosts may consider inviting a member of the Group of Experts to be the chair, or a co-chair, of the workshop.

13. Hosts should provide support staff to organize proceedings in consultation with the secretariat of the Regular Process and the members of the Group of Experts who are taking part, and to help the chair(s) and the member(s) of the Group of Experts provide a summary of the outcome.

Preliminary information

14. Participants in the workshop should be asked to provide, in advance of the workshop, contributions containing the information listed in appendix I to the present guidelines. Members of the Group of Experts should be prepared to help this process with advice and, as appropriate, relevant documentation.

15. The workshop support staff should compile that information into summaries, which should be available, and distributed to participants, in advance of the workshop.

Activities of workshops

16. The agenda of a workshop to support the Regular Process should, as far as possible, include the elements set out in appendix II to these guidelines. The activities of a workshop should take full account of the principles for the Regular Process recommended by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole and endorsed by the General Assembly in 2009 (resolution 64/71, paras. 123-183), and the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole in 2010 (A/65/358) and 2011 (A/65/259).

17. An important part of each workshop will be to make a start on capacity-building in carrying out integrated assessments, so that the workshop participants can better understand, and contribute to, the work of the Regular Process.

Output of workshops

18. The output of the workshop should take the form of a summary of the discussions prepared by the chair or co-chairs, with the help of the member(s) of the Group of Experts. Provision should be made for the participants to comment on a draft of the summary and for the final version to be revised by the chair(s) and representative(s) of the Group of Experts in the light of such comments. Where a State or intergovernmental organization not participating in the workshop conducted or was responsible for assessments, institutions, networks or other arrangements which have been identified as relevant, that State or intergovernmental organization should be invited and/or requested to review and comment on what is said about any such matter.

19. An electronic copy of the final version of the summary should be sent to the secretariat of the Regular Process, to be posted on the website of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea as a United Nations document and/or on the Regular Process website.

Appendix I

Information to be provided by participants in advance of the workshop

States or intergovernmental organizations attending the workshop are to provide:

(1) Details of assessments carried out under their auspices relevant to issues in the draft possible outline for the first global integrated assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects. A starting point for assembling this information should be the assessments listed in the Global and Regional Assessments of the Marine Environment Database, where much of the information is already to be found. Assessments not carried out by States or intergovernmental organizations but which they use or consider to be relevant, should also be included. The details to be provided should include, as far as possible:

(a) Agency conducting the specific assessment;

(b) Major intended users of the assessment, and the uses for which it was intended;

(c) Spatial and temporal scale of the assessment, and frequency of assessment cycle;

(d) Issues covered by the assessment;

(e) Types of data, experiential knowledge, indicators and the reasons for their selection, and other information sources contributing to the assessment;

(f) Where trends of component information sets have been deduced, the methods employed;

(g) Where an effort has been made to integrate different types of information, particularly social, economic and ecological information, the extent of, and methods for, such integration;

(h) Sources of any evaluation benchmarks, reference levels or ecotoxicological assessment criteria used in the assessment;

(i) Extent and sources of any forecasts, projections and scenarios used in the assessment;

(j) If data assessment limitations (such as data extrapolation errors, uncertainties and/or information gaps) were addressed in the assessment, a description of how this was done;

(2) For issues in the draft possible outline for the first global integrated assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects, for which no assessment has been carried out by a State or intergovernmental organization attending the workshop, but for which a participant holds relevant data or information:

(a) What types of relevant data or information are known to be collected and managed, and by what State(s) and agencies (this is expected to be the case for some

key social and economic data)? What information can be provided about the spatial and temporal coverage and technical content of such data or information?

(b) Where key types of information are not known to exist, can expert knowledge be mobilized to fill the gap and, if so, how can the experts be accessed?

(3) Contact details of focal points for the States and intergovernmental organizations to be represented at the workshop;

(4) Advance notice of identified capacity-building needs.

Appendix II

Elements for the agenda of a workshop to support the Regular Process

1. Presentation by a representative of the Group of Experts of the Regular Process on the objective, scope and framework of the Regular Process and the intended function of the workshop.

2. Consideration by the workshop of whether the draft possible outline for the first global integrated assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects, will meet the needs of the States and intergovernmental organizations represented in the workshop. Identification of priority issues for integrated assessment and of any additional questions that should be considered in the first global integrated marine assessment.

3. Evaluation by the workshop of the assessments in the summary prepared on the basis of the information submitted under item (1) of appendix I above and compilation of an inventory of those considered useful for the Regular Process.

4. Consideration of existing regional approaches and methodologies on integrated assessment.

5. Consideration by the workshop of what might be done in relation to issues on which data and/or information is known to be available but no assessment has been carried out.

6. Identification of issues which are important but for which no data/information is available for the sea area under consideration, and discussion of how information can be mobilized or the necessary research into such issues can be organized.

7. Consideration by the workshop of whether any changes are needed in the draft guidance to authors.[a]

8. Stock-taking by the workshop of the existing capacities of national and regional ocean and marine research and training institutions relevant to the States and intergovernmental organizations concerned with the sea area under consideration, for marine monitoring and assessment and integrated assessments.

9. Stock-taking of existing expert networks in and among the States and intergovernmental organizations concerned with the sea area under consideration, and of their suitability for playing major roles in strengthening capacity.

10. Identification by the workshop of needs for capacity-building (including the acquisition of necessary technology) for marine monitoring and assessment (including making integrated assessments).

11. Development by the workshop of a short-term capacity-building plan to mobilize the information and knowledge that is known to exist in relation to the sea area under consideration, but has not yet been systematically organized in a way that would allow its use for the Regular Process.

[a] See annex B to the set of options prepared pursuant to paragraph 212 of General Assembly resolution 65/37, December 2010, available at www.un.org/Depts/los/global_reporting/Set_of_Options.pdf.

12. A session to start building capacity for integrated assessments.

13. Consideration by the workshop of how users of the existing assessments in the summary can be kept informed of activities of the Regular Process, and how the Group of Experts of the Regular Process can be kept aware of, and responsive to, their needs.

Annex III

Draft terms of reference and working methods for the Group of Experts of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socio-economic Aspects

I. Introduction

1. In paragraph 180 of its resolution 64/71, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to invite the Chairs of the regional groups to constitute a group of experts, ensuring adequate expertise and geographical distribution, comprised of a maximum of 25 experts and no more than 5 experts per regional group, for a period up to and including the informal meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole to be held from 30 August to 3 September 2010.

2. In its paragraph 209 of its resolution 65/37 A, the General Assembly decided to establish a group of experts to be an integral part of the Regular Process and requested the members of the Group of Experts, who had been appointed by Member States pursuant to paragraph 180 of resolution 64/71, to continue serving on the Group of Experts for the duration of the first phase of the first assessment cycle, and encouraged regional groups that had not yet done so to appoint experts to the Group of Experts in accordance with paragraph 180 of resolution 64/71.

3. The present document, prepared by the secretariat of the Regular Process in consultation with the Group of Experts, defines the terms of reference for the experts appointed to, or to be appointed to, the Group of Experts.

II. Terms of reference

4. The general task of the Group of Experts shall be to carry out assessments within the framework of the Regular Process, under the supervision of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole [and its bureau]. In particular, the tasks of the Group of Experts shall be:

(a) To draft an outline of questions to be considered in the main assessment to be undertaken in each cycle of the Regular Process, for approval by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole;

(b) At the request of the General Assembly or the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole [or its bureau], to draft an outline of any supplementary assessment to be undertaken during a cycle of the Regular Process, for approval by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole;

(c) To provide specifications of the types of additional expertise that the Group of Experts will need to carry out any assessment, as a basis for appointments, through the regional groups, of members of the pool of experts;

(d) To designate from among its members a lead member and, as appropriate, other members to take responsibility, under the overall responsibility of the Group of Experts, for each part, section or chapter of any assessment;

(e) To propose assignments for approval by the bureau of members of the pool of experts;

(i) To work with the designated lead member of the Group of Experts in drafting working papers and/or draft chapters of any assessment;

(ii) To review and comment on material produced for any assignment;

(f) To draft an implementation plan and timetable for every assessment, for approval by the [bureau of the] Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, and, if necessary, to propose amendments to that plan and timetable for approval in the same way;

(g) To agree on general guidance to all those involved in carrying out any assessment;

(h) To carry out the implementation plan in accordance with the timetable and any such general guidance;

(i) To review all material produced for any assessment, to take such steps as it considers necessary to assure the quality of data and information used in such material, and to take any further steps necessary to bring the assessment to a satisfactory conclusion, subject to the approval of the [bureau of the] Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole if any such action would require expenditure from the trust fund for the Regular Process;

(j) To propose arrangements for approval by the bureau for the peer review of the draft output of any assessment;

(k) In the light of the comments from the peer review, to agree on a final text of any assessment for submission [through its bureau] to the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, and to present that text to the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole;

(l) To promote networking among marine assessment processes and individual experts;

(m) To perform any other tasks assigned to it by the [bureau of the] Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole.

Composition

5. The Group of Experts shall be composed as follows:

(a) The Group of Experts shall be composed of a maximum of 25 experts and no more than 5 experts per regional group. Its composition shall reflect geographic and gender balance;

(b) The composition shall ensure a mix of disciplinary expertise and involve participants from all regions in order to take into account different regional circumstances and experience. All of the main disciplines in the natural and social sciences, including their policy aspects, and law and traditional knowledge should be considered for inclusion;

(c) The experts may be drawn from any type of affiliation (e.g. Government, non-governmental organization, intergovernmental organization, private sector, academic and research institutions, holders of traditional knowledge);

(d) The experts shall have experience and expertise in one or several of the categories described in the collective profile of the Group of Experts;

(e) The experts shall have internationally recognized excellence in their field or fields of expertise;

(f) The experts shall have demonstrated high-level participation in international processes relevant to the marine environment;

(g) The experts shall have the ability to serve in an independent, individual capacity.

Appointments

6. Members of the Group of Experts shall be appointed in accordance with resolution 65/37 A as follows:

(a) Members shall be nominated by the Member States of the United Nations, through the five regional groups (African States Group, Asian States, Eastern European States, Latin American and Caribbean States and Western European and other States), with each regional group nominating up to five experts;

(b) Nominations shall take account of the criteria for the appointment of experts;

(c) Members shall be in a position to devote substantial amounts of time solely to the work of the Regular Process;

(d) Membership shall be renewed completely at the start of each cycle of the Regular Process. Existing members of the Group of Experts may be renominated, but no member shall serve for more than two consecutive complete cycles;

(e) An appointment to fill a vacancy occurring during a cycle may be made at any time, but the appointment shall come to an end at the end of the cycle during which it is made;

(f) When the chair of a regional group informs the secretariat of the Regular Process that the regional group has made an appointment to the Group of Experts, the secretariat of the Regular Process shall seek confirmation from the expert that s/he is willing to serve under the present terms of reference and methods of work and, upon receipt of that confirmation, shall issue a letter of confirmation of the appointment to the expert, publish the appointment on the websites of the Regular Process and the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, and inform the other members of the Group of Experts;

(g) Members may resign at any time by writing to the secretariat of the Regular Process;

(h) Members shall participate in the Group of Experts as participants in advisory meetings and shall serve in their personal capacity and not as a representative of a Government or of any authority external to the United Nations;

(i) The services of the members of the Group of Experts shall be obtained pursuant to a letter of invitation issued by the Secretariat.

Proprietary rights

7. The United Nations shall be entitled to all property rights, including but not limited to patents, copyrights and trademarks, with regard to material which bears a direct relation to, or is made in consequence of, the services provided to the Organization.

Compensation

8. Members of the Group of Experts shall not receive any honorarium, fee or other remuneration from the United Nations for their participation in the Group of Experts. Members from developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing States, will, subject to the availability of resources, receive travel assistance to participate in the meetings to be convened by the United Nations in conjunction with the work of the Group of Experts.

Working methods

9. The working methods of the Group of Experts shall be as follows:

(a) The Group of Experts may operate even if there are vacancies in its composition;

(b) The Group of Experts shall designate two coordinators from among its members, one from a developed country and one from a developing country. The task of the coordinators shall be to take such actions as they jointly consider will facilitate the discharge by the Group of Experts of the tasks which it has been given. The Group of Experts may change the designation of the coordinators at any time;

(c) Communications between the Group of Experts, the secretariat of the Regular Process and States shall be made through a secure website to be provided for by the secretariat of the Regular Process;

(d) The Group of Experts shall communicate with the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole through the secretariat of the Regular Process and through meetings convened by the secretariat of the Regular Process;

(e) When needed and within the available resources, the Group of Experts may meet to discuss areas of work which cannot be dealt with through electronic meetings or other forms of electronic communication;

(f) The Group of Experts shall aim to work by consensus. Where consensus cannot be achieved, the Group of Experts shall ensure that all divergent opinions are appropriately reported in any draft, any proposal or any final text of any assessment.

Secretariat

10. The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, as part of its functions as secretariat of the Regular Process, shall serve as the secretariat of the Group of Experts.

Annex IV

Report on communication requirements and data and information management for the Regular Process

1. The present report, prepared by the secretariat of the Regular Process and the Group of Experts, responds to the related requests in paragraphs 2, 4 and 6 of General Assembly resolution 65/37. It has been prepared in consultation with the Office of Information and Communications Technology of the Secretariat.

Paragraphs 2 and 6 of General Assembly resolution 65/37 B

2. Most of the various needs for communication, data handling and information management can best be met within a single website covering all aspects of the Regular Process. A revised possible specification of functionalities for a Regular Process website has, therefore, been appended to the present report.

3. As indicated in the appendix (para. 8 (a)-(c)), there may be benefits to hosting the virtual office on a separate system. Further discussion between the Group of Experts, the secretariat of the Regular Process and the Office of Information and Communications Technology has helped to substantiate that the virtual office would indeed be better managed on a separate system.

4. The Office of Information and Communications Technology is in the process of updating the facilities that could be made available for a virtual office. Urgent steps were taken to make the Quickr system, which is the currently available format, more responsive to the needs of the Group of Experts. This system is currently providing adequate support for the Group of Experts. The updated system, which should be available in the late summer of 2011, is expected to be more responsive to the requirements of the Group of Experts.

5. A proposal has been prepared by the Division of Early Warning and Assessment of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization that could meet the requirements of the Regular Process. UNEP and IOC have offered to create and host a dedicated information portal that allows Member States to access key resources related to the Regular Process, including the Global and Regional Assessments of the Marine Environment Database. UNEP and IOC have developed a prototype of such a portal as part of the follow-up to the "assessment of assessments" (see A/64/88). The Office of Information and Communications Technology is assessing the specification prepared by UNEP and IOC and will report on its assessment at the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, to be held on 27 and 28 June 2011.

6. In regard to provisions for communications between States and the secretariat of the Regular Process and the Group of Experts, it is suggested that such communications be made through the proposed "restricted" section of the website. To this end, it will be important for States to nominate a focal point, as

recommended in the "assessment of assessments".[a] Parallel arrangements for focal points could also be made for intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations with consultative status with the Economic and Social Council which are involved in the Regular Process. Arrangements for focal points could be made as soon as the proposed website is in operation.

Paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 65/37 B

7. Paragraph 4 of resolution 65/37 B was apparently aimed at giving the Group of Experts the ability to initiate requests for support in managing data and information. However, the Group of Experts has seen no need to make any such formal request. The efforts being made by the secretariat of the Regular Process, the Office of Information and Communications Technology and UNEP and IOC seem to be meeting current needs.

[a] A/64/88, paras. 108-111. A focal point could be in an appropriate national authority or institution, or in a permanent mission in New York. States could also designate additional contact points which could have access to the restricted part of the website, but it would be important for there to be a clear, single focal point for communication with each State taking part in the Regular Process.

Appendix

Revised possible specification of functionalities for a Regular Process website

1. This note is organized in descending order of access, starting with the section open to everyone with Internet access.

2. The public website and the restricted website, on the one hand, and the virtual office, on the other hand, could be located on different servers and use different systems, or be integrated on a single server.

3. All parts of the website (public website, restricted website and virtual office), whatever server they are carried on, will need to be provided with adequate security to prevent unauthorized access or interference and with adequate, regular backup.

4. It will be important that the integrity of the website be safeguarded so that it provides a permanent and complete record of how the Regular Process is being carried out.

Public website (open to everyone)

5. The public website will contain:

(a) An introduction to the Regular Process and its working methods (Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) documents only);

(b) Details of the Group of Experts and the secretariat of the Regular Process and methods of contact (HTML documents only);

(c) A calendar of events forming part of the Regular Process (HTML document and downloadable (portable document format) (PDF) document);

(d) A library section giving access to all the documents relating to the Regular Process, including:

(i) Relevant section of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

(ii) Relevant extracts from General Assembly resolutions;

(iii) Reports (or extracts of reports) of the Secretary-General;

(iv) Reports of the 2004 Group of Experts and the international workshops;

(v) Reports of the Ad Hoc Steering Group for the "assessment of assessments";

(vi) The "assessment of assessments" report;

(vii) Documents and reports relating to meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole;

(viii) Other background material.

All the material in this section should be viewable as HTML documents and downloadable as PDF files and word-processor documents;

(e) A section giving the financial details of the Regular Process trust funds, including contributions and expenditures (HTML documents only);

(f) A section giving the approved documents setting out the outline of the first global integrated marine assessment and the guidance to authors and similar documents. All the material in this section should be viewable as HTML documents and downloadable as PDF files and word-processor documents;

(g) A section giving working papers and draft chapters for the first global integrated marine assessment which have been approved for public release. All the material in this section should be viewable as HTML documents and downloadable as PDF files and word-processor documents;

(h) In due course, a section giving:

(i) The draft first global integrated marine assessment report;

(ii) A document showing comments on the draft first global integrated marine assessment report by peer reviewers, and responses by drafters/editors;

(iii) The final first global integrated marine assessment report;

The material in this section should be viewable as an HTML document and downloadable as a PDF file, but does not need to be downloadable as a word-processor document;

(i) A section giving access to data and information on which the working papers and draft chapters are based. This section will need to be able to include:

(i) Reports of workshops held for the purposes of the Regular Process;

(ii) A database of basic information (metadata) about assessments which have been considered or used;

(iii) A bibliography of books, articles and other material (such as databases) which have been used in preparing working papers or draft chapters. This bibliography should be able to provide access details for sites (such as Journal Storage (JSTOR)) where scientific journals are stored permanently in electronic form;

(iv) Hyperlinks to websites where the assessments, books, articles or other material can be found;

(v) Files (in a variety of formats) containing information not elsewhere available.

Restricted website (open only to members of the Group of Experts, the secretariat of the Regular Process, collaborators, focal points in national Governments and intergovernmental organizations and correspondents in non-governmental organizations with consultative status with the Economic and Social Council)

6. The restricted website will contain:

(a) A section for organizing workshops forming part of the Regular Process. This section should be able to include HTML documents as well as documents in PDF format and word-processor format that can be downloaded. Each workshop will need to be able to have a separate subsection;

(b) An interactive section where focal points and correspondents can post questions or comments and members of the Group of Experts or the secretariat of

the Regular Process can post answers to the questions or responses to the comments. This should, in effect, be an internal "blog" for the Regular Process;

(c) A section to support the drafting process of working papers and draft chapters. This section needs to allow lead drafters and their collaborators to create, access and amend working papers and draft chapters. Others with access to the restricted website should be able to see what is being done, but only those responsible for each working paper or draft chapter should be able to create or amend text. It is essential that this section have the capacity to clearly and automatically identify the authors of documents and amendments made to documents, keep a record of the dates of creation and amendment of the texts and keep a backup of earlier versions of each document. It is also highly desirable that, while one person is working on a document, other individuals cannot access it, at least for a reasonable period of time;

(d) In due course, a section to provide for peer review of draft chapters (probably during 2013), in two subsections:

(i) *A section for review by States and intergovernmental organizations*. In addition to the functionalities required for the section on working papers and draft chapters (see para. (c) above), this section should provide for reviewers (authorized by States or intergovernmental organizations) to add comments to the text of the draft chapters, but not to change the text. The system should display all the comments on any paragraph or subparagraph together and identify the source of each comment. Restricting reviewers from changing the text will help to prevent confusion and facilitate later editing;

(ii) *A section for review by the selected peer reviewers*. Since there will only be a comparatively small number of peer reviewers for each chapter, it should be possible for them to amend the text of their chapter and to add comments. Otherwise, the requirements will be the same as for the section on working papers and draft chapters (see para. (c) above).

7. In addition, the section for peer review will need to be able to:

(a) Keep a record of:

(i) The titles, names and contact details of commentators from States and intergovernmental organizations;

(ii) The assignments for the selected peer reviewers and their titles, names and contact details;

(b) Record automatically the dates when reviewers make each comment and chapter editors take action in response;

(c) Permit commentators and peer reviewers to exchange messages with the chapter editors and provide for such messages to be kept and linked to the relevant paragraph;

(d) Keep copies of all comments and proposed changes;

(e) Automatically notify chapter editors of newly posted material and of deadlines that have not been met;

(f) Permit authors and reviewers to upload and download documents related to the review work, as required.

Virtual office (open only to the members of the Group of Experts, the secretariat of the Regular Process and representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Maritime Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, etc.)

8. The virtual office will contain:

(a) A section which allows those with access to the virtual office to create, access and amend documents on which work is being carried out. It is essential that this section clearly and automatically identify the authors of documents and amendments made to documents and keep a backup of earlier versions of each document. It is also highly desirable that, while one person is working on a document, other individuals cannot access it, at least for a reasonable period of time;

(b) A section which allows a number of "conversations" to take place in which all individuals with access to the virtual office can add their comments and see the comments of all others, without having to open each message separately. The system should, if possible, have an overview that enables individuals with access to the virtual office to see new contributions to "conversations" without having to open each "conversation" separately;

(c) A system of notification which shows when new documents have been created and, if requested, when amendments have been made to existing documents.

Annex V

Report on the preliminary inventory of capacity-building for assessments and types of experts for workshops

1. The present report, prepared by the secretariat of the Regular Process with the assistance of the Group of Experts, responds to the request in paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 65/37 B.

2. As requested, a preliminary inventory of existing opportunities and arrangements for capacity-building for assessments is attached as appendix I and a preliminary inventory of types of experts for workshops is attached as appendix II.

3. No comprehensive inventory of opportunities and arrangements for capacity-building for assessments currently exists and the information is not readily available. The information in Appendix I was prepared on the basis of the following sources:

(a) Study on the assistance available to, and measures that may be taken by, developing States to realize the benefits of sustainable and effective development of marine resources and uses of the oceans within the limits of national jurisdiction (A/63/342);

(b) Compilation of sources of available assistance for developing States and the needs of developing States for capacity-building and assistance in the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks (ICSP8/UNFSA/INF.4/Rev);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea (A/65/69);

(d) Report on the work of the United Nations Open-Ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea at its eleventh meeting (A/65/164).

Appendix I

Preliminary inventory of existing opportunities and arrangements for capacity-building for assessments

A. International financial institutions and global organizations, programmes and funds

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

Clearing-house mechanism	
Recipient developing States	All
Forms of assistance	Global
Area of assistance	The clearing-house mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity was established pursuant to article 18.3 of the Convention. Further to decision X/15 of the Conference of the Parties, the clearing-house mechanism is to contribute significantly to the implementation of the Convention and its Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, through effective information services and other appropriate means in order to promote and facilitate scientific and technical cooperation, knowledge sharing and information exchange, and to establish a fully operational network of parties and partners. A list of priority activities has been defined, and a description of the information services to be provided by the clearing-house mechanism is available in document UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2010/1/3.

Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources

General Science Capacity Special Fund	
Recipient developing States	All
Forms of assistance	Regional
Area of assistance	The purpose of the Fund is to secure wider participation in the work of the Commission's Scientific Committee, to promote burden-sharing and build capacity within the Committee, and to assist with the collection, study and exchange of information relating to the marine living resources to which the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources applies. The Fund also serves to encourage and promote the conduct of cooperative and collaborative research in order to extend knowledge of the marine living resources of the Antarctic marine ecosystem.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Assistance Fund under Part VII of the Agreement for the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982

Recipient developing States	All developing States parties to the Agreement
Forms of assistance	Global
Area of assistance	Facilitating the participation of developing States parties in meetings of regional fisheries management organizations and agreements, global meetings and meetings for new regional fisheries management organizations and agreements; capacity-building and the development of human resources; facilitating exchange of information and experience on the implementation of the Agreement among States parties; technical assistance and training.

Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) contribution to the FishCode Trust

Recipient developing States	All
Forms of assistance	Global/regional/national
Area of assistance	The FishCode Trust finances activities to promote improved understanding and application of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, under the framework of the FishCode programme. In this context, SIDA provides (a) expert working groups and consultations (global level); (b) special studies (global, regional and national); (c) regional capacity-building workshops; and (d) national technical assistance missions to promote, inter alia, the effective generation and use of fishery statistics and information and more appropriate assessments of small-scale fisheries.

Assessment and Monitoring of the Fishery Resources and the Ecosystems in the Straits of Sicily (MedSudMed) (trust fund)

Recipient States	The beneficiaries include the national scientific institutions in the four participating countries (Italy, Libya, Malta and Tunisia) involved in research activities at a regional level as well as the fisheries administrations of the participating Governments. The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean also benefits from the improved information and monitoring system.
Forms of assistance	Regional
Area of assistance	The project's main objective is to improve knowledge of fishery resources and their ecosystems — as a contribution to the development of responsible fisheries management — by supporting research activities related to the interactions between demersal and small pelagic fishery resources and biotic and abiotic environmental factors. Activities include:

	(a) review of knowledge and collection of scientific evidence on shared stocks (demersal and small pelagic fish) in the Strait of Sicily and standardization of data collection and data analysis methods; (b) joint cooperative surveys at sea at subregional scale (eggs and larvae, echo-surveys, trawl surveys) for assessment of shared stocks; (c) collection of information on impacts of environmental factors on target stocks; (d) identification and location of nursery areas of target stocks; (e) national capacity-building through regional workshops; (f) issue of technical manuals and creation of databases; (g) training courses (data processing for stock assessment, fisheries resources age determination, identification of maturity stages of fisheries resources).

Coordination to Support Fisheries Management in the Western and Central Mediterranean (CopeMed II) (trust fund)

Recipient States	The fishery research institutions of the region and the national management bodies of Algeria, France, Italy, Libya, Malta, Morocco, Spain and Tunisia
Forms of assistance	Regional
Area of assistance	Supporting fisheries administrations in the collection of data and information at national and subregional level (fleet, catches, efforts, socio-economic data); providing technical assistance and training to countries to meet their needs and priorities and to strengthen their national capacity in fisheries sciences (organize meetings and workshops, prepare scientific papers, support annual research activities, etc.).

Ecosystem approach to fisheries — Nansen project "Strengthening the knowledge base for and implementing an ecosystem approach to marine fisheries in developing countries" (trust fund)

Recipient developing States	All, with an early emphasis on sub-Saharan Africa
Forms of assistance	Global
Area of assistance	To apprise partners of procedures and methods for assessment and monitoring of key ecosystem properties, including the development of standardized data collection, sampling methods and appropriate set of scientific indicators; increased capacity at scientific and management level for the ecosystem approach to marine fisheries; advice on the use of national or regional research vessels, including coordinated coverage by local or other vessels; project planning and dissemination of information.

Global Environment Facility (GEF)/United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)/ United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)/World Bank/regional development banks

Multilateral financial mechanism for the international waters focal area of GEF

Recipient developing States	All
Forms of assistance	Global
Area of assistance	The international waters focal area of GEF provides funding to help States address shared, transboundary water systems such as coasts and oceans, river basins and aquifer systems. GEF assistance has been provided for collaborative work to States sharing 19 large marine ecosystems, which constitute over one half of the large marine ecosystems shared by developing countries. The GEF multi-billion-dollar trust fund is open to universal participation, with 176 countries currently as members, and builds on a partnership of UNDP, UNEP, the World Bank, four regional development banks, FAO and UNIDO. These agencies can access funding on behalf of developing countries and those in economic transition for activities consistent with the GEF operational strategy. At present, 127 GEF recipient States and 21 industrial countries are collaborating on GEF Council-approved projects related to large marine ecosystems and their coasts. Information on these projects can be found on the GEF international waters knowledge management website at www.iwlearn.net.

International Hydrographic Organization (IHO)

IHO capacity-building fund

Recipient developing States	All
Forms of assistance	Global
Area of assistance	Provision of the necessary assistance to States where the lack of hydrographic capabilities undermines, inter alia, the protection of the marine environment. The capacity-building fund provides support for the main categories of capacity-building activity, namely (a) technical assistance: support for technical visits to member States to assess hydrographic surveying, nautical charting and nautical information status; provision of guidelines for the development of local hydrographic capabilities and/or advice on technical matters pertaining to hydrographic projects; (b) training and education: support for the implementation of hydrographic, nautical cartography and other related training and education initiatives consistent with the IHO work programme; (c) financial assistance for participation in IHO events: support for member States' representatives to attend courses and/or technical meetings, consistent with the IHO work programme; and

	(d) start-up funding for hydrographic elements of projects: support for the very first steps of the implementation of high priority hydrocartographic projects consistent with the IHO objectives.

International Oceanographic Commission (IOC)

IOC Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology

Recipient developing States	All
Forms of assistance	Global
Area of assistance	Through its education and mutual assistance and training through research programmes, the Commission provides in-country training for developing countries seeking capacity-building in addressing national priorities. The Commission's Advisory Body of Experts in the Law of the Sea agreed to offer assistance to member States and to develop cooperation among member States for marine scientific research projects, with particular attention to capacity-building. The Commission has also developed a clearing-house mechanism to assist interested developing and developed countries that are seeking appropriate partnerships for technology transfer. The Commission's International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange facilitates the exchange of oceanographic data and information between participating member States and meets the needs of users for data and information products. Online Access to Research in the Environment, an international public-private consortium coordinated by UNEP, Yale University and leading science and technology publishers, also enables developing countries to gain access to research on environmental science.

International Seabed Authority

Endowment Fund for Marine Scientific Research in the Area

Recipient developing States	All States parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
Forms of assistance	Global
Area of assistance	With regard to marine scientific research in the Area, the Authority has addressed capacity-building primarily through the establishment of the Endowment Fund for Marine Scientific Research in the Area, which supports the participation of qualified scientists and technical personnel from developing countries in international cooperative marine scientific research programmes. The Fund has facilitated the development of capacity through training and technical assistance.

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

Development Assistance Committee annual aggregates database and creditor reporting system

Recipient developing States	All
Forms of assistance	Global
Area of assistance	The Committee tracks bilateral and multilateral donors' aid and other resource flows to developing countries in two separate databases: the annual aggregates database, which provides comprehensive data on the volume, origin and types of aid and other resource flows; and the creditor reporting system, which provides detailed information on individual aid activities, such as sectors, countries, project descriptions, etc.

Appendix II

Preliminary inventory of types of experts for workshops

1. The secretariat of the Regular Process and the Group of Experts have considered what types of experts would be able to make important contributions to the workshops to be held to support the Regular Process and accomplish the first global integrated marine assessment.

2. It has been recognized that all experts in any of the fields to be covered by the outline of the assessment would be able to make a useful contribution to the output of a workshop. It would also be important to ensure that experts from both the environmental sciences and the economic and social sciences take part.

3. Significant contributions can be expected, in particular, from experts who have taken a leading part in the most comprehensive recent assessments carried out for the area of sea covered by a workshop.

4. Furthermore, it would be particularly helpful if the expertise represented in a workshop can cover as many as possible of the following fields:

(a) Oceanography, meteorology (including climate change as it affects the oceans), ocean chemistry and marine geology;

(b) Marine biology and biological oceanography (primary production);

(c) Assessment and management of fish and shellfish stocks;

(d) Planning, management and development of fishing and aquaculture industries and communities dependent on them;

(e) Planning and development of maritime transport, management of ports and installation of submarine cables and pipelines;

(f) Maritime safety;

(g) Monitoring and assessment of coastal, riverine and atmospheric inputs to the seas and dumping at sea;

(h) Exploration and development of offshore petroleum and mineral resources (including aggregates);

(i) Planning and development of wind, wave and tidal power;

(j) Planning and development of the coastal zone (including urbanization, town and country planning and zoning);

(k) Monitoring and assessment of marine species, habitats, ecologically and biologically sensitive areas and vulnerable marine ecosystems (including ecological economics);

(l) Designation and management of marine protected areas;

(m) Expertise in introduced marine pests;

(n) Expertise in marine genetic resources;

(o) Economics of marine resources;

(p) Economics and social aspects of marine industries, including tourism and recreational uses of the oceans.

Annex VI

Possible outline for the first global integrated[a] assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects

Note: The present document is for information only. It contains revisions suggested by the Group of Experts of the Regular Process and requires further consideration by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole at its next meeting.

Part I
Summary for decision makers

This part would not follow the pattern of the main report, but highlight the most significant conclusions. It would aim to bring out:

(a) The way in which the assessment has been carried out;

(b) Overall assessment of the scale of human impact on the oceans;

(c) The main threats to the marine environment and human economic and social well-being;

(d) The needs for capacity-building and effective approaches to meeting such needs;

(e) The most serious gaps in knowledge and possible ways of filling them.

Part II
The context of the assessment

Chapter 1
Planet, oceans and life

This chapter would be a broad, introductory survey of the role played by the oceans and seas in the life of the planet, the way in which they function, and humans' relationships to them. It should be supported by at least two Working Papers summarizing:

1.A. Human population in coastal areas, including major cities in coastal areas and forecast changes.

The material under this heading would aim to draw on the work done for the United Nations World Population Prospects

1.B. Human impact on coastal areas: the extent to which human activities on land create pressures on coastal and marine ecosystems.

Material that could be relevant could include the proportion of land in coastal catchments that is used for intensive agriculture in different parts of the world, the

[a] In this context, "integrated" means assessing impacts from a number of individual stressors and considering cumulative effects on marine ecosystems, i.e., the overall impact from multiple processes and activities overlapping in time and space.

intensity of industrial and urban development in coastal catchments, and the proportion of coastline which is given over to urban development.

Chapter 4
Mandate, information sources and method of work

4.A. Objectives, scope and mandate of the Regular Process, as agreed by the General Assembly.

4.B. General issues relating to the collection of environmental, economic and social data relating to the oceans and seas and human uses of them, including national, regional and global aggregation and analysis of information and data, quality assurance of data and access to information.

4.C. Description of the procedures agreed for carrying out the first global integrated marine assessment, and the way in which these procedures have been implemented, including the approach to the science/policy interface, the selection of contributors, the choices made on the establishment of baselines, the description and categorizing of uncertainties and the quality assurance of data.

Part III
Assessment of major ecosystem services from the marine environment (other than provisioning services)[b]

Several chapters in this part would draw heavily on the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The aim would be to use the work of the Panel, not to duplicate it or challenge it.

Chapter 5
The oceans' role in the hydrological cycle

5.A. The interactions between the seawater and freshwater segments of the hydrological cycle: the rate of turnover and changes in it — freshwater fluxes into the sea and their interaction with it, including the effects on the marine environment of changes in those fluxes as a result of changes in continental ice sheets and glaciers, and of anthropogenic changes in those fluxes (for example, from dam-building or increased abstraction) — reduction in ice coverage — sea level changes.

5.B. Environmental, economic and social implications of ocean warming, sea level change, including the implications of rises in sea level for the security and implications for low-lying countries, and anthropogenic and other changes to freshwater fluxes.

5.C. Chemical composition of seawater: salinity and nutrient content of the different water bodies — changes in salinity and nutrient content.

5.C bis. Environmental, economic and social implications of changes in salinity and nutrient content.

[b] The main provisioning service from the oceans is food, which is covered in part IV (food security and safety). Other provisioning services are covered in part V (other human activities impacting on the marine environment).

5.D. The oceans' role in heat transportation: ocean warming — the overall influence of the oceans on surface temperature and circulation patterns — oceanic oscillations — El Niño and similar events.

5.E. Environmental, economic and social impacts of changes in ocean temperature and of major ocean temperature events.

Chapter 6
Sea/air interaction

6.A. The role of the seas in regulating atmospheric fluxes and concentration of oxygen and carbon dioxide (oxygen production, carbon dioxide sequestration): role of the oceans and seas as carbon-dioxide sinks — issues about maintaining or enhancing that role.

6.B. Meteorological phenomena related to the oceans: hurricanes and typhoons — monsoon rains — trade winds.

6.C. Environmental, economic and social implications of trends in meteorological phenomena, including changes in the frequency and intensity of storms, effects on seas covered by ice for much of the year and the communities that depend on them, and the implications for small island developing States.

6.D. Ocean acidification: degree and extent of ocean acidification resulting from human activities.

6.E. Environmental, economic and social implications of trends in ocean acidification (with cross-reference to part IV on food security).

Chapter 7
Primary production, cycling of nutrients, surface layer and plankton

7.A. Global distribution of primary production: the reasons for the present distribution — factors affecting cycling of nutrients and the variability and resilience of the base of the food web — changes known and foreseen, including changes in ultraviolet radiation from ozone-layer problems.

7.B. Surface layer and plankton: role of the surface layer — factors influencing it — variations in plankton species.

7.C. Environmental, economic and social implications of trends in primary production and other factors affecting the inherent variability and resilience of the base of the food web (with cross-reference to part IV on food security).

Chapter 7 bis
Ocean-sourced carbonate production

Role of ocean-sourced carbonate production in the formation of atolls and beaches — potential impacts of ocean acidification.

Chapter 8
Aesthetic, cultural, religious and spiritual ecosystem services derived from the marine environment

Scale of human interactions with the oceans and seas on the aesthetic, cultural, religious and spiritual levels, including burials at sea, and ways in which these

interactions may be affected by other changes. There would also be a cross-reference to chapter 26 (tourism).

Chapter 8 bis
Scientific understanding of ecosystem services

Overview of the state of scientific understanding of ecosystem services, including data collection, information management, differences between different parts of the world and research needs.

Chapter 9
Conclusions on major ecosystems services other than provisioning services

Summary of the main issues, including capacity-building needs and information gaps, as identified in chapters 5 to 8 bis.

Part IV
Assessment of cross-cutting issue: food security and safety

This part would draw substantially on assessments carried out by FAO.

Chapter 10
Oceans and seas as sources of food

Scale of human dependence on the oceans and seas for food and pressures of increased demands, the variations between different parts of the world, and the extent to which some parts of the world depend on other parts for fish and seafood and the contribution of living marine resources to food security.

Chapter 11
Capture fisheries

11.A. Commercial fish and shellfish stocks: present status of fish and shellfish stocks that are commercially exploited — scale of economic activity (large-scale commercial, artisanal and recreational fishing).[c]

11.B. Other fish and shellfish stocks: present status of fish and shellfish stocks exploited by artisanal or subsistence fishing — significance for livelihoods — present status of fish stocks not currently exploited.

11.C. Impacts of capture fisheries (large-scale commercial, artisanal and subsistence fishing) on marine ecosystems, through effects on the food web, by-catch (fish, mammals, reptiles and sea-birds), and different fishing gear and methods, including the impact of discards on other wildlife, and impacts from lost or abandoned fishing gear.

11.C bis. Effects of pollution on living marine resources: possible effects of chemical and radioactive pollution on stocks of living marine resources used for food — implications of potential threats of such pollution.

[c] See also chapter 26 (tourism) on recreational fishing.

11.D. Illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing:[d] scale, location and impacts on fish stocks. Effects of measures adopted to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing, including the FAO International Plan of Action on Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported Fishing and the FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing.

11.E. Regulatory approaches for the management of commercial capture fisheries: descriptions of the major tools and approaches, including economic measures — extent of the application of the different management approaches — typical consequences for the marine environment and related economic activities of measures taken under the different management approaches, including such issues as by-catch handling and discards — relationships to status of fish stocks.

11.F. Regulatory approaches for the management of artisanal and subsistence fishing: descriptions of the major tools and approaches — extent of the application of the different management approaches — typical consequences for the marine environment and related economic activities of measures taken under the different management approaches — relationships to status of fish stocks.

11.G. Projections of the status of fish and shellfish stocks over the next decade in the light of all relevant factors.

Chapter 12
Aquaculture

12.A. Scale and distribution of aquaculture: locations of aquaculture activities — species cultivated — economic significance and contribution to food security.

12.B. Aquaculture inputs and effects: demand for coastal space — demand for fish meal from capture fisheries.

12.B bis. Pollution and contamination from aquaculture: use of chemicals — interactions of escaped stock with wild stocks.

12.C. Regulatory approaches for the management of aquaculture: descriptions of the major tools and approaches — extent of the application of the different management approaches — typical consequences for the marine environment and related economic activities of measures taken under the different management approaches.

12.D. Projections of the role of aquaculture over the next decade in the light of all relevant factors.

12.E. Capacity-building needs for the management of aquaculture and the monitoring of its impacts.

Chapter 12 bis
Fish stock propagation

12 bis.A. Rebuilding depleted stocks through marine ranching and release of fish from hatcheries.

[d] As defined in the FAO International Plan of Action on Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported Fishing.

12 bis.B. Transplantation of living marine resources to different ecosystems.

12 bis.C. Effects of artificial propagation on natural ecosystems.

12 bis.D. Regulatory approaches to fish stock propagation — range of application — results.

12 bis.E. Capacity-building needs for management of fish stock propagation and monitoring its impacts.

Chapter 13
Seaweeds and other sea-based food

13.A. Scale, location of collection and significance of food derived from the oceans and seas other than fish and shellfish — projected developments over the next decade.

13.B. Potential impacts of collection of seaweed and other sea-based food.

13.C. Regulatory approaches to the collection of seaweed and other sea-based food — approaches and range of application — benefits achieved and unintended effects.

13.D. Capacity-building needs for improving, and managing, the use of such food and monitoring the impact of collection on the marine environment.

Chapter 14
Social and economic aspects of fisheries

14.A. Relationship with human health: health benefits and problems from sea-based food, including the potential to supplement protein-poor diets — chemical, toxic and bacterial contamination — capacity-building needs to promote benefits and to control problems.

14.B. Scale and significance of employment in fisheries and aquaculture: numbers employed — relationship of earnings to local median earnings — scale of injuries to fishers compared to other industries.

14.C. Role of fisheries in social structure: role of fishers in local societies — extent to which fishing is the sole source of livelihood — extent to which local societies are dependent on fisheries and aquaculture.

14.E. Relationship between catch areas, ownership and operation of fishing vessels, landing ports and consumption distribution: the benefits States (and economic operators based in them) obtain from fisheries and aquaculture in their territorial seas and exclusive economic zones — the States (and economic operators based in them) that benefit from high-seas fisheries and distant-water fisheries.

14.E bis. Implementation of international fisheries agreements: need for changes in fishing vessels and gear — need for training of fishers — capacity-building needs to support implementation.

14.E ter. Effects of changes in markets: growth of long-distance transport of landed fish and shellfish — ecocertification — impact of other campaigns by ecological groups.

14.F. Links to other industries: scale of economic activity dependent on fisheries and aquaculture, both in providing equipment (especially ships) and in processing output.

Chapter 15
Conclusions on food security

15.A. Summary of the main issues, including capacity-building needs and information gaps, identified in chapters 10 to 14.

15.B. Longer-term development of food from marine resources — impacts of climate change — impacts of population changes — relation with changes in terrestrial food production.

Part V
Assessment of other human activities and the marine environment

Chapter 16
Shipping

16.A. Significance of shipping in world trade: major shipping routes — amount of world trade carried by sea — economic benefits to States from shipping activities, including as flag States — projections of changes over the next decade, including changes in shipping possibilities at high latitudes as a result of changes in ice cover.

16.B. Seafarers: scale of employment — adequacy of training in relation to protection of the marine environment — relationship of seafarers' earnings to median earnings — scale of injuries to seafarers in comparison to other employments.

16.C. Threats from shipping: locations, scale and trends — pollution from shipping (covering all forms of pollution regulated by the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) annexes I to VI, anti-fouling treatments and noise) — the acoustic impact of shipping on marine organisms — shipping disasters, including their longer-term effects — invasive species through ballast water and other biosecurity risks — transport of ships for ship-breaking — risks to coastal States from shipping compared to their trade.

16.C bis. Economic impact on shipping of marine environment protection measures, including IMO conventions and other instruments.

16.D. Links to other industries and commerce: shipbuilding — ship-breaking — bunkers — insurance, chartering and navigation services.

16.D bis. Transport of radioactive substances by sea.

16.F. Regulatory approaches to managing shipping: descriptions of the major approaches (especially IMO conventions and instruments) — extent of the application of the various management approaches — typical consequences for the marine environment and related economic activities of measures taken under the various management approaches, including, but not limited to, special areas and particularly sensitive sea areas — enforcement.

16.G. Capacity-building needs for managing shipping and monitoring its effects, including needs to support the implementation of international conventions and other instruments.

Chapter 17
Ports

17.A. Scale and significance of port activities: locations and traffic — projected growth, including the implications of changes in shipping routes considered under heading 16.A, economic benefits to port States.

17.B. Impacts of the creation and maintenance of ports: scale of port development — dredging for navigational purposes — management of ships' waste, including effects of charging regimes — pollution from ships in port — remobilization of pollutants by dredging.

17.C. Regulatory frameworks for management of ports: description of main approaches to control of impacts of ports on the marine environment — extent of application of these approaches — intended benefits and unintended effects — relationship to shipping industry — relationship to fisheries and to international trade.

17.D. Capacity-building needs for management of ports and monitoring of their impact on the marine environment.

Chapter 18
Submarine cables and pipelines

18.A. Scale, location and role of cables and cable-laying: role in international communications and the Internet — projected developments over the next decade — employment — links to other industries — economic benefits.

18.B. Potential pollution and physical harm from cables and pipelines — during construction/installation — during use — after decommissioning.

18.C. Regulatory frameworks for management by States of pipelines and cables and pipeline and cable laying under their jurisdiction: extent of application of these frameworks — intended benefits and unintended effects — interference with other uses of the oceans.

18.D. Capacity-building needs for managing cable laying and pipeline installation and for monitoring their effects on the marine environment.

Chapter 19
Coastal, riverine and atmospheric inputs from land

19.A. Municipal wastewater, including the impact of major cities and of cruise ships in harbours: scale and degree of treatment — nature of impact, through both direct and riverine inputs, including impacts on microbiological quality of coastal waters as well as economic impacts of adverse effects on water quality, especially on aquaculture and tourism — projected developments over the next decade.

19.B. Industrial discharges, including point sources: hazardous substances, including persistent organic pollutants and heavy metals — hydrocarbons — nutrients — scale of discharges (direct and riverine inputs and atmospheric

transport) — degree of treatment — nature of impact, including impacts on human health through food chain — projected developments over the next decade.

19.C. Agricultural runoff and emissions: scale (direct and riverine inputs and atmospheric transport of nutrients) — nature of impact — projected developments over the next decade.

19.D. Eutrophication: combined effects of municipal, industrial and agricultural inputs, considering also the effects of turbidity in coastal waters and denitrification in estuaries — cross-reference to effects on fish stocks and effects on the food web.

19.F. Inputs of radioactive substances from both nuclear and non-nuclear industries — actual, potential and suspected impacts of inputs of radioactive substances.

19.G. Regulatory frameworks for managing the impact of land-based inputs: Global Programme of Action — regional conventions — national plans — range of approaches applied — intended outcomes and unintended effects.

19.H. Capacity-building needs for the management of wastewater, industrial discharges and agricultural run-off and for monitoring their impact on the marine environment.

Chapter 20
Offshore[c] hydrocarbon industries

20.A. Scale and significance of the offshore hydrocarbon industries: location, scale of production and projected development over the next decade — economic benefits to States.

20.B. Impacts from exploration, including seismic surveys: scale and projected development over the next decade.

20.C. Impacts from production: scale and projected development, including cuttings piles, chemicals used offshore, flaring, produced water — sewage discharges from installations.

20.D. Offshore installation disasters and their impacts, including longer-term effects.

20.E. Decommissioning.

20.G. Regulatory frameworks for management of offshore hydrocarbon installations: approaches and range of application — benefits achieved and unintended effects — training on the implementation of rules for the protection of the marine environment.

20.H. Capacity-building needs for managing the interface between Governments and offshore hydrocarbon industries and for monitoring the impact of hydrocarbon installations on the marine environment.

[c] "Offshore" in this chapter and the following two chapters covers all installations that are situated in the marine environment, whether in internal waters, territorial seas or exclusive economic zones.

Chapter 21
Other marine-based energy industries

21.A. Scale of wind, wave and tidal power generation — current, planned and forecast.

21.B. Environmental benefits and impacts of wind, wave and tidal power generation.

21.C. Expected economic performance of wind, wave and tidal power generation.

21.D. Regulatory frameworks for management of offshore non-hydrocarbon energy installations: approaches and range of application — benefits achieved and unintended effects.

21.E. Capacity-building for the planning and management of offshore wind, wave and tidal power generation and for monitoring its impact on the marine environment.

Chapter 22
Offshore mining industries

22.A. Scale and significance of sand and gravel extraction: environmental impacts of sand and gravel extraction.

22.B. Economic benefits of sand and gravel extraction.

22.C. Developments in other seabed mining: current state and potential scale.

22.D. Regulatory frameworks for the management of offshore mining industries: approaches and range of application — benefits achieved and unintended effects.

22.E. Capacity-building for the planning and management of offshore mining industries.

Chapter 23
Solid waste disposal

23.A. Types and amounts of waste dumped at sea, including potential impacts on the marine environment — projected levels of dumping over the next decade.

23.B. Regulatory frameworks to manage solid-waste dumping: approaches and range of application — benefits achieved and unintended effects.

23.C. Capacity-building needs for the management of solid-waste disposal at sea and for monitoring effects on the marine environment.

Chapter 24
Marine debris

24.A. The multiple causes of marine debris, including lack of controls on land-based disposal of waste, lack of management of beach litter and ship-generated litter, and the scale and distribution of the problem.

24.B. Approaches to combating marine debris — range of application — cases where progress has been made.

24.C. Capacity-building needs for combating marine debris and for monitoring the level of marine debris.

Chapter 25
Land/sea physical interaction

25.A. Land reclamation: scale and location of land reclamation and habitat modification and the habitats affected — regulatory approaches to the management of reclamation and modification — range of application — results.

25.B. Erosion of land by the sea: economic and social costs of land erosion — effects on marine and coastal habitats of coastal defences, including beaches and fringing islands — implications for small island developing States — costs of coastal defences — regulatory and management approaches to coastal defence — range of application — results.

25.C. Sedimentation changes: sedimentation in the marine environment as a result of land erosion by rainfall and rivers — decline in marine sedimentation as a result of water management — effect of both types of change on marine and coastal habitats, including estuaries, deltas, submarine canyons — regulatory approaches to control sedimentation changes — range of application — results.

25.D. Capacity-building needs for managing land/sea physical interaction and for monitoring effects on the marine environment.

Chapter 26
Tourism and recreation

26.A. Location and scale of tourism and recreation, including cruise ships: employment — economic benefits of tourism — economic benefits resulting from protecting marine biodiversity.

26.A bis. Recreational and sport fishing and its impact on marine wildlife.

26.A ter. Impacts of recreational and tourist vessels on sensitive sea areas.

26.B. Contribution of tourism to problems of sewage and pollution, including from cruise ships (see also heading 19A, municipal wastewater).

26.C. Location and scale of other environmental impacts of tourism, including habitat disturbance and destruction.

26.C bis. Relationship of tourism to protection of marine species and habitats (for example, whale-watching and whale sanctuaries).

26.D. Regulatory approaches to managing the environmental impacts of tourism — range of application — results.

26.E. Capacity-building needs for managing tourism and for monitoring its impact on the marine environment.

Chapter 27
Desalinisation

Scale of desalinization, its social and economic benefits and its environmental impacts. Capacity-building needs for desalinization.

Chapter 28
Use of marine genetic resources

28.A. Current topics, locations and scale of research and exploitation, including the uses being made of marine genetic resources and associated issues such as intellectual property rights.

28.B. Regulatory approaches to research and exploitation for marine genetic resources in waters under the jurisdiction of States[f] — range of application — results.

28.C. Capacity-building for research and exploitation of marine genetic resources and their management.

Chapter 29
Specific issues for the marine environment from defence activities

29.B. The acoustic impact of recurrent defence operations on marine life.

29.C. The scale of dumping at sea of unwanted munitions and problems resulting from dumped munitions and chemical weapons.

Chapter 30
Marine scientific research

30.A. Topics, scale and location of marine scientific research.

30.B. Regulatory approaches to marine scientific research — range of application — results.

30.C. Capacity-building needs for marine scientific research, including transfer of technology.

Chapter 31
Conclusions on other human activities

Summary of the main issues, including capacity-building needs and information gaps, identified in chapters 16 to 30.

Part VI
Assessment of marine biological diversity and habitats

Chapter 31 bis
Introduction

The aim of this part is (a) to give an overview of marine biological diversity and what is known about it; (b) to review the status and trends of, and threats to, marine ecosystems, species and habitats that have been identified by competent authorities at the global, regional or national level as threatened, declining or otherwise in need of protection; (c) to review the regulatory and management approaches to conservation, including the range of their application and results; and (d) to identify capacity-building needs.

[f] Given the present state of discussions on marine genetic resources in relation to the high seas, there seems to be no scope for any assessment of regulatory approaches in this area.

Section AA — Overview of marine biological diversity

Chapter 31 ter
Scale of marine biological diversity

Main gradients of diversity for species, communities and habitats (coastal to abyssal, equatorial to polar, substrate type, salinity).

Chapter 31 quater
Extent of assessment of marine biological diversity

Proportion of major groups of species and habitats in the different marine regions that are assessed on a systematic basis for status, trends and threats.

Chapter 31 quinquies
Overall status of major groups of species and habitats

Summary, by major group and marine region, of the status, trends and threats, including the cumulative effects of pressures, shown by those assessments.

Section A — Ecologically and biologically sensitive areas and vulnerable marine ecosystems

These are types of areas and ecosystems which have already been identified by a competent organization at the global level, such as the General Assembly, the Convention on Biological Diversity or FAO, as needing special attention.

Chapter 32
Coral (and other biogenic) reefs

Types, locations, scale, status and threats, including cumulative pressures.

Chapter 33
Mangroves, salt marsh and other macro-vegetation areas

Types, locations, scale, status and threats, including cumulative pressures.

Chapter 34
Seagrass and eel-grass beds

Types, locations, scale, status and threats, including cumulative pressures.

Chapter 35
Kelp forests

Types, locations, scale, status and threats, including cumulative pressures.

Chapter 36
Seamounts, deep-sea banks and plateaus

Locations, numbers, status and threats, including cumulative pressures.

Chapter 37
Hydrothermal vents

Locations, scale, status and threats, including cumulative pressures.

Chapter 38
Other types of ecologically and biologically sensitive areas and vulnerable marine ecosystems

Types, locations, numbers and extent, status and threats, including cumulative pressures.

Section B — Other species and habitats identified as threatened, declining or otherwise in need of protection

Chapter 40
Migratory marine species depending on a range of regional ecosystems and covered by agreements under the Bonn Convention or other international agreements, including conventions of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements

40.A. Migratory marine mammals: distribution, numbers, status and threats, including cumulative pressures;

40.B. Sea turtles: distribution, numbers, status and threats, including cumulative pressures;

40.C. Highly migratory fish species: distribution, numbers, status and threats, including cumulative pressures;

40.D. Migratory sea-birds: distribution, numbers, status and threats, including cumulative pressures.

Chapter 41
Other species identified by a competent authority at the global, regional or national level as threatened, declining or in need of protection

For each species or group of species: distribution, numbers, status and threats, including cumulative pressures.

Chapter 42
Other habitats identified by a competent authority at global, regional or national level as threatened, declining or in need of protection

For each type of habitat or group of types of habitat: distribution, area, status and threats, including cumulative pressures.

Section B bis — Regulatory and management frameworks and capacity-building needs

Chapter 42 bis
Regulatory and management frameworks

Regulatory and management frameworks and approaches for the conservation of species and habitats, including marine protected areas — range of application — benefits achieved and unforeseen effects.

Chapter 42 ter
Capacity-building needs

Capacity-building needs for assessing the status of species and habitats and for managing the conservation of species and habitats judged to need protection.

Section C — Summary

Chapter 43
Summary

Summary of the main issues, including capacity-building needs and information gaps, identified in chapters 31 bis to 42 ter.

Part VII
Overall assessment

Chapter 44
Overall assessment of human impact on the oceans

44.A. Consideration of the implications of cumulative pressures on the overall state of the oceans and seas.

44.B. Evaluations under different methods of assessing overall human impact on the oceans and seas.

Chapter 45
Overall value of the oceans to humans

Evaluations under different methods of the benefits accruing to humans from the oceans.

Appendix

Terminology

Terminology used to describe the major features of the ocean basins and linked seas

1.A. A short summary of the technical terms used to describe the main geological features: enclosed and semi-enclosed seas — continental shelves and slopes — mid-ocean ridges — seamounts — coral and other biogenic reefs — sedimentation — major estuaries — fjord and ria areas — ocean canyons — coastal geological structures, beaches, marine wetlands, mangroves and tidal flats.

1.B. A short summary of the technical terms used to describe the main features of the water column: bodies of water — thermohaline circulation — the main ocean currents — deep water formation (downwelling) and upwelling — stratification — acidification — ice coverage.

Terminology used to describe rights and obligations in the oceans

This section would set out the definitions contained in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea for the terms (territorial sea, exclusive economic zone, etc.) used in the assessment, so that readers can see what is intended